

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Contact:** 

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SALEM – Hillsboro Mayor Jerry Willey received a *Mayors Leadership Award of Merit* during the closing banquet of the Oregon Mayors Association (OMA) Summer Conference, held July 30 – August 1 in Cottage Grove.

A consistent thread throughout the materials nominating Mayor Willey for this award was his dedication to working for the betterment of not only his city residents but an entire region. This drew considerable praise:

- From Neighboring Forest Grove Mayor Pete Truax for Mayor Willey's role in the distribution of Gain Share funds to help all schools across the county;
- From Tigard Mayor John Cook for spearheading the Washington County Transportation Study;
  and
- From Beaverton Mayor Denny Doyle for Mayor Willey's leadership on the Grand Bargain a legislative agreement to significantly expand the UGB in Washington County.

U.S. Representative Suzanne Bonamici praised Mayor Willey's collaborative approach, not only with her office, but with mayors across Washington County and community stakeholders.

Mayor Willey was also applauded for his ability to build consensus. One supporter stated, "For Mayor Willey, it is not just all about Hillsboro, but it is about modeling the way and encouraging others to come along forward together. He is not given to playing politics, but is rational and fact-based, solution-oriented, collaborative, and not afraid to challenge the status quo and stand alone if necessary."

Mayor Willey's impact on his community can be seen in:

- The 2014 negotiations with Intel on a 30-year, \$100 billion Strategic Investment Partnership agreement with the City of Hillsboro and Washington County;
- A 50-year water supply plan;
- An ambitious plan to bring 17,000 new jobs to the city's north industrial area;

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- Preparing for more than 20,000 new residents through a master-planned development in south Hillsboro; and
- Creating modern, urban housing options in strategic locations served well by public transportation.

Mayor Willey's nominators stated that his commitment to public service has greatly elevated the city's ability to plan for the future, to work with regional partners, to enable its employees to achieve greater results, and to conduct the affairs of its citizens with integrity and respect.

Established in 1993 by the OMA, the Mayors Leadership Award recognizes the valuable contributions that mayors throughout Oregon make to their communities each year. In judging the nominees, the Selection Committee considers whether the nominee has:

- 1. Demonstrated exceptional leadership qualities which have contributed to lasting benefits in their city and the community as a whole;
- 2. Shown considerable involvement in community affairs and intergovernmental relations;
- 3. Shown exceptional skill in helping to facilitate productive relationships between the governing body and city employees; and
- 4. Helped other Oregon mayors reach their full potential as community leaders.